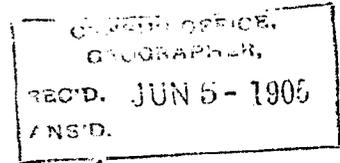


U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BIOLOGICAL SURVEY  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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ASST. IN CHARGE GAME PRESERVATION  
F. E. L. BEAL,  
ASST. IN CHARGE ECONOMIC ORNITHOLOGY

April 26/04



Dear Prof. Mason;

Owing to an attack of the grippe I have been delayed in replying to your query concerning the spelling of the name of the Kowak river. The natives of the river whom I met on my visit to Kotzebue sound pronounced it ku-wukh (the first syllable u is sounded like oo in loot). From this comes the spelling Kowak in which the a is to be pronounced about as in auk. The spelling or pronunciation kubuk is evidently a miners' corruption.

Sincerely yours

E. W. Nelson.

Specially referred  
to B. of Geographic Names

O. Mason  
ap. 27.